

REMARKS

Applicant, by the amendments presented above, has made a concerted effort to present claims which more clearly define over the prior art of record, and thus to place this case in condition for allowance.

Currently, claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 9 and 10 have been allowed.

Allowed Claims

Claims 9 and 10 were allowed. Claim 9 has been amended to avoid a possible §112 rejection. Applicant submits that this does not effect the allowability of claims 9 and 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 13-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicant has amended claims 13 and 16 to overcome the Examiner's rejections. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 13-20 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 13-15 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,079,986 to Beshears. Applicant has amended independent claim 13 to specify that the plurality of pin type terminals, which are comprised of a signal terminal and a plurality of ground terminals, protrude from the planar surface of the plug main body.

Applicant submits that Beshears clearly does not disclose or suggest having a plurality of pin type terminals, which are comprised of a signal terminal and a plurality of ground terminals, protruding from the planar surface of the plug main body as is specified in amended claim 13. The pins 42, 72, 74 of the plug in Beshears do not extend from a planar surface. Instead, they extend from surfaces 14, 60 as stated by the Examiner in the Office Action. These surfaces 14, 60 do not form planar surface.

Applicant submits that the amendment of claim 13 in this manner does not require further search and/or consideration. The limitation of a planar surface of the plug was presented in claim 9 which the Examiner allowed on the first Office Action.

Thus, Applicant submits that amended claim 13 is not anticipated, and is not rendered obvious, by Beshears. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration of amended claim 13 and allowance thereof.

Claims 14, 15 and 17-20 are dependent upon claim 13 which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 14, 15 and 17-20 is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-8, 11, 12 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,079,986 to Beshears in view of the Applicant's admitted prior art. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to specify that the plurality of pin type terminals, which are comprised of a plurality of ground terminals and a signal terminal, protrude from the planar surface of the plug main body.

Applicant submits that the combination of Beshears and the Admitted prior art clearly do not suggest having a plurality of pin type terminals, which are comprised of a signal terminal and a plurality of ground terminals, protruding from the planar surface of the plug main body as is specified in amended claim 1. The pins 42, 72, 74 of the plug in Beshears do not extend from a planar surface. Instead, they extend from surfaces 14, 60 as stated by the Examiner in the Office Action. These surfaces 14, 60 do not form planar surface. The Admitted prior art does not remedy this deficiency in Beshears.

In addition, the circuit board 14 of Beshears is not connected to the signal terminal 22 as is specified in claim 1. Insulator 60 surrounds the signal terminal 22 such that signal terminal 22 does not mate with circuit board 14. The Admitted prior art does not remedy this deficiency in Beshears. The Examiner did not provide any comments in the Office Action on this aspect of Applicant's previous remarks.

Moreover, Applicant submits that the amendment of claim 1 in this manner does not require further search and/or consideration. The limitation of a planar surface of the plug was presented in claim 9 which the Examiner allowed on the first Office Action.

Thus, Applicant submits that amended claim 1 is not rendered obvious by Beshears in view of the Admitted prior art. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration of amended claim 1 and allowance thereof.

Claims 2-8, 11, 12 are dependent upon claim 1 which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-8, 11, 12 is requested.

Claim 16 is dependent upon amended claim 13 which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 16 is also requested.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the application are allowable over the rejections of the Examiner. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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